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'I LOVE HER TO DEATH, BUT ...
'I COULD BE HER FATHER,' BRADLEY SAYS,
DENYING ROMANCE WITH JENNIFER PAGE 11

EDMONTON

metro

Wednesday, January 16, 2013

News worth sharing.

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NEW BLUE-LINER

The newest Edmonton Oilers defenceman, Mark Fistric, skates for the first time with the team during its NHL training camp on Tuesday. Fistric was traded to the Oilers from the Dallas Stars. For more Oilers coverage, see page 18.

JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Grim outlook

Alberta budget to be rolled out March 7

The next sitting of the Alberta legislature is to begin March 5.

The provincial budget is to follow two days later.

Premier Alison Redford has suggested the financial plan for the coming year will be a tough challenge as her government faces reduced oil revenue and soaring costs.

Redford has already ruled out tax or fee increases.

That means her government must consider running another deficit, cutting spending and dipping into what's left of Alberta's Sustainability Fund.

The Progressive Conservatives say they will also focus on opening new markets for Alberta's resources. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Limited powers

City approves cell-tower policy

City councillors approved a new policy for dealing with contentious cellphone towers, while admitting they ultimately do not have the power to stop them.

The new policy sets out standards for how companies consult, but several councillors expressed frustration because the final decision still rests with Industry Canada.

"I have a great empathy for citizens coming to speak, but many times they come forward with questions we can't answer," said Mayor Stephen Mandel.

The city can recommend a tower not go ahead, but only over design issues, while many residents express health concerns.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



1
NEWS

EEDC head encourages world to 'build it here'

Fuel for the economic engine. Ferguson says business community willing to talk taxes

**RYAN
TUMILTY**
ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

Edmonton should open its doors to people around the world to keep the city's economic advantage through the good times and the bad, according to the president of the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation.

"We want to invite the world to come build it here, whatever your 'it' is. It could be your career, your business, your family, your skills," said

Brad Ferguson.

Ferguson made the push to a capacity crowd at the Shaw Conference Centre, saying the EEDC was aiming to keep the Edmonton economy at the top of the heap.

"At EEDC our principal objective is for Edmonton and the Capital Region to outperform every major regional jurisdiction in North America consistently over the next 20 years," he said.

Ferguson said they are hoping to build a business community that can do that in any climate.

"We have to do that whether the price of oil is \$140 or \$40."

With the provincial government set to release its budget in March, Finance Minister Doug Horner also spoke at

The EEDC

The Edmonton Economic Development Corporation is an arm's-length agency that encourages economic development in the city and runs the Edmonton Research Park and Shaw Conference Centre.

- The agency also plans to boost tourism in the year ahead, encourage businesses to move here, and make its economic data and analysis more available to the public.

the event and emphasized the challenge that Alberta is facing.

"You have likely heard the news over the last several weeks about the province's fiscal challenges; you are going to hear more."

Horner released no details, but Ferguson said the budget could have a big impact on Edmonton and a discussion about taxes should be on the table.

"We need to start talking about what the premier isn't talking about, and that is a sustainable revenue framework," he said.

After the speech, Ferguson said the reception in the room made it clear the business community will not rule that idea out of hand.

"If they are serious about getting their expenditures under control, then the business community can have a discussion about taxes."

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Papaschase First Nation to protest on QEII Hwy.

The Papaschase Band is planning to blockade the QEII Highway on Wednesday afternoon in support of a national day of action called by First Nations chiefs and the Idle No More movement.

The few hours that people will be inconvenienced by a highway blockade is nothing compared to what First Nations people have put up with for decades, says the Papaschase chief.

"We've been inconvenienced for over 100 years be-

cause of the government's policies and laws," said Calvin Bruneau.

Bruneau said both vehicles and people will block the highway into Edmonton by Gateway Park at 1 p.m. Wednesday.

"If (the government) were meeting and dealing with us effectively, then we wouldn't be doing this," he said.

Police spokesman Scott Patterson said officers will be on hand to handle traffic control and ensure public safety.

ANNALISE KLINGBEIL/METRO

Road work, repairs

Road closure update

Emergency road work is causing the closure of two major local roads.

Grierson Hill will close from the Low Level Bridge up to 95A Street Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emergency repairs are also forcing traffic on 109 Street at 82 Avenue down to one lane until further notice.

METRO

4 nominations

Canadian Screen Awards salute Alberta Ballet

The Alberta Ballet has received four Canadian Screen Award nominations for a television version of the Elton John ballet called Love Lies Bleeding.

The production was shot at the Banff Centre. The nominations include best performing arts program.

METRO

Details

- Location.** The highway blockade will take place near the border of the former Papaschase First Nation reserve in south Edmonton.
- Cause.** Idle No More is an ongoing grassroots movement that has gained international attention.

Lloydminster

Arrest made in December murder

Jeremy James Fensom, 34, is facing various charges, including aggravated assault, forcible confinement and possession of a firearm, in connection to a December homicide in Lloydminster.

Damien James Mercer, 27, is still at large in connection with the homicide and a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

METRO



Bridal stores across the city are updating their wardrobes to include the latest styles, including ABC Bridal on Edmonton's north side. HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO

Expect Edmonton brides in lace, colours in 2013

Fashion show. Check out the latest in trends at Bridal Fantasy on Sunday at 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Edmonton Expo Centre

Wedding season

- With the Edmonton Bridal Fair behind us and Bridal Fantasy this weekend, January is just the beginning of wedding season.
- This is the third installment in a five-part series on the arrival of the season in Edmonton.

beading, very subtle."

In fact, those who follow the trends are noticing brides are doing other things to make their outfits stand out.

According to Amy Maier, an Edmonton wedding planner who used to manage Bridal Debut, dresses with a keyhole or portrait-style back are growing in popularity, as are coloured wedding gowns in soft pink, green and light gold.

"I'm also beginning to see a lot of accessories," she said. "A lot of brides are adding belts, funky shoes, headpieces. I do see brides adding straps, too."

As for bridesmaid dresses, a growing trend is having them all in the same colour, but different styles.

"Everyone is not the same size," said Sadik. "I like that, actually. It looks good."

Brides getting married this year can likely thank the Duchess of Cambridge for the style of their dress.

Kate was lovely in lace during her April 2011 wedding, which is a fabric still dominating the bridal scene nearly two years later.

But lace is not alone.

"A lot of it is the mermaid

and the trumpet skirts, so it kind of goes in and then comes out," said Nadia Sadik, manager of ABC Bridal in north Edmonton. "And lace is very big this year, and I think that has to do with Kate and all of that."

"I've also noticed less is more this year.... Not a lot of

Classic

Shop early, but don't bring a crowd

Wedding-dress shopping is a bit of a rite of passage when it comes to getting married. But that doesn't mean a bride should bring everyone she knows along for the ride.

"I think less is better just because ... you're not going to please everybody," said Nadia Sadik, manager of Edmonton's ABC Bridal. "Not everyone is going to like your dress."

Sadik has helped out

brides who have had as many as seven people in tow.

"Three or four — that's pretty much the max," she said. "Because then (the bride) starts getting confused, and she starts going down the line: 'Oh, I don't like it; I like it; I don't like it' ... and in the end it's about the bride."

Sadik also suggests coming in early — at least eight months in advance, though the process usually takes 11.

And while trends and designers are important to some, most brides simply want what best fits their

body — which can come, at ABC Bridal for example, via a discontinued dress for 60 per cent off, up to a price of \$2,800.

HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO



Lace is still a big hit when it comes to wedding dresses.

HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO



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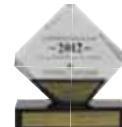
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*'If you are planning to renovate,
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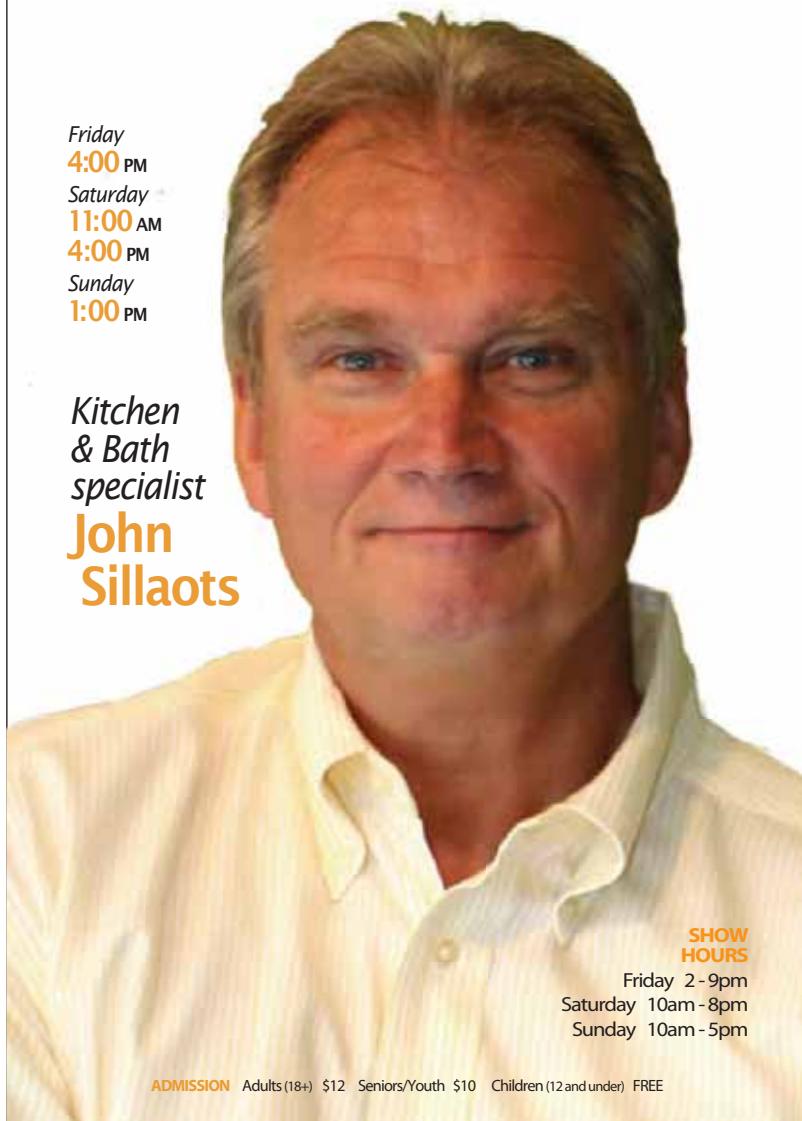
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Custom-made plagiarism



A Metro staffer searches Craigslist ads for essay-writing services. DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

Academic dishonesty.
Essay ghostwriter
has no moral qualms
about what he does



JESSICA SMITH
Metro Toronto

Hey students, want some "eloquent phrasing and sophisticated articulate arguments for your critical analysis?" Or "are you tired of wasting time in front of your laptop instead of having fun?" There may be an essay ghostwriter for you.

On Craigslist Toronto, more than 20 ads for essay-writing services were published in one day this week — months from end-of-the-semester crunch time.

One post advertises, "A for your essays." Another advertises a husband-and-wife team, both with master's degrees, who have a combined 35 years of post-secondary essay-writing experience.

One of the ghostwriters —

"A for your essays" — agreed to be interviewed. Sam, who declined to give his last name, says he has an MBA.

"The way I look at it is that I am filling a need in the market. I am writing, and what they do with it is up to themselves," he wrote in an email to Metro.

Most of his clients are repeat customers, and he's taken some through both their undergraduate and MBA degrees, he says.

About three-quarters of his students will hand in his essay verbatim, even though he advises them to make it their own. Sometimes, when they write three essays in a term themselves then hand in one of his as the fourth, the TA will catch on to the difference and they'll get caught, he says. "All students want is an A on the essay, no matter how their previous marks have been."

Sam, like all of the essay writers on Craigslist, says his essays are original, so they won't be flagged as plagiarized by Turnitin.com.

At this time of year, he'll get eight to 10 email requests a day, increasing to about 20 in March.

Buyer beware
**EasyA?
No way**

As with everything you can buy on Craigslist, it's buyer beware for purchased essays.

Metro ordered a \$97, custom-written essay from AcademicWritingBrokers.com, which advertises on Craigslist. As promised, it arrived within 24 hours and passed a check on Turnitin.com. The topic — "Is William Lyon Mackenzie King an idealist or opportunist?" — was from Dan Azoulay's 20-century Canada class at Toronto's York University.

"It's not a very good essay," said Azoulay of the finished product. "It just doesn't answer the essay question."

The essay also has grammar issues and rambles without structure.

Fear of children. Teacher sues school district over kid phobia

A former teacher is suing the U.S. school district where she used to work, saying administrators discriminated against her because she has a rare phobia: A fear of young children.

Maria Walther-Willard, 61, had been teaching Spanish and French to teenagers in Ohio since 1976.

Walther-Willard was transferred to a school with young students in 2009. She says the kids there triggered her phobia, forcing her to retire.

Her lawsuit says her fear of

young children falls under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act and that the district violated it by transferring her and not letting her go back to her former school.

Gary Winters, the school district's attorney, said Walther-Willard was transferred because the French program at her school was being turned into an online one and that the other school needed a Spanish teacher.

"She wants money," Winters said of Walter-Willard's

motivation to sue.

The lawsuit said Walther-Willard has been treated for her phobia since 1991.

Patrick McGrath, a clinical psychologist and director of the Center for Anxiety and Obsessive Compulsive Disorders near Chicago, said he has treated patients who have fears involving children and that anyone can be afraid of anything.

"We've had mothers who wouldn't touch their children after they're born," he said.

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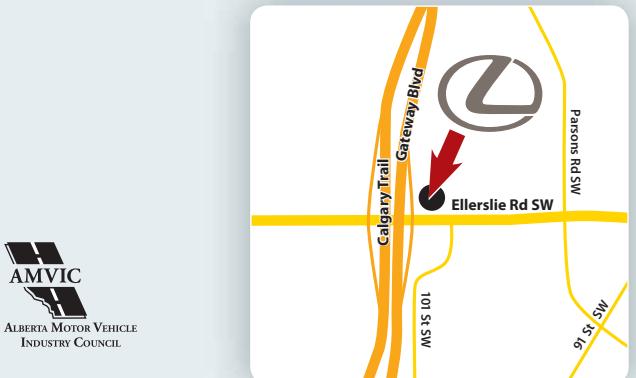
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Wal-Mart pledges to hire U.S. veterans

Patriotic push. Retailer waves flag as it tries to rebound from recent blows to reputation

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer and the biggest U.S. private employer with 1.4 million workers, said Tuesday it is rolling out a three-part plan to help jump-start America's sluggish economy.

The plan includes hiring more than 100,000 army veterans in the next five years, spending \$50 billion US to buy more American-made merchandise in the next 10 years and helping its part-time workers move into full-time positions sooner.

The move comes as Wal-Mart's attempts to rebound from blows to its reputation in recent months from an alleged bribery scandal in Mexico and a deadly fire in November at

By the numbers
10.8%
The unemployment rate for U.S. veterans who served in Iraq or Afghanistan stood at 10.8 per cent in December, versus the overall unemployment rate of 7.8 per cent.

a Bangladesh factory that supplies clothes to the company. Wal-Mart, which often has been criticized for offering

low-paying jobs and not buying more from U.S. manufacturers, said its plan will highlight the career opportunities in the retail industry.

"We've developed a national paralysis that's driven by all of us waiting for someone else to do something," Bill Simon, president and CEO of Wal-Mart's U.S. business, said at an annual retail industry convention in New York on Tuesday morning.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A woman approaches a Walmart store in Valley Stream, N.Y., in this 2011 file photo. The retailer said it plans to hire every U.S. veteran who wants a job and has been honourably discharged in the first 12 months of active duty. GETTY IMAGES FILE



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Social media. Facebook unveils 'graph search'

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg introduced a new search feature on Tuesday in the company's first staged event at its Menlo Park, Calif., headquarters since its May initial public offering.

Called "graph search," the new service lets users search their social connections for information about people, interests, photos and places. It'll help users who, for instance, want to scroll through all the photos their friends have taken in Paris or search for the favourite TV shows of all their friends who happen to be doctors.

Until now, Facebook users were unable to search for friends who live in a certain town or like a particular movie. With the new feature, people can search for friends who, say, live in Boston who also like Zero Dark Thirty.

Competitive move

- Graph search escalates an already fierce duel between Google and Facebook. Although Facebook isn't trying to fetch information across the web like Google does, it's clearly trying to divert traffic and ad spending from its rival.

Zuckerberg says the search feature is "privacy aware," which means users can only search for content that has been shared with them.

It will likely take more than a year for graph search to be available to all of Facebook's more than one billion users.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal

Cirque du soleil calls meeting amid layoff reports

The world-renowned Cirque du soleil will meet with staff on Wednesday amid reports that up to 600 people could be laid off.

Renée-Claude Ménard, the Cirque's senior director of public relations, would not comment on layoff speculation until the staff meeting. However, she confirmed the organization is conducting a major review of its operations in light of "our recent production adjustments." The Cirque employs about 5,000 people worldwide, including 2,000 at its Montreal head office.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Music retailing

As HMV's British ops sink, HMV Canada swims

While British music and entertainment retailer HMV tries to salvage any viable parts of its business, the Canadian offshoot of the famous brand says it's far from the financial strife of its former owner.

The two companies parted ways just over a year ago when British-based parent HMV Group PLC sold off the Canadian stores to private equity firm Hilco for \$3.2 million. "We've gone after a significantly different business model (than the U.K. stores)," said HMV Canada president Nick Williams. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
101.62¢
(-0.03¢)

Natural gas: \$3.46 US (+8¢)
Dow Jones: 13,534.89 (+27.57)

TSX
12,641.97 (+38.89)

OIL
\$93.28 US (-86¢)

GOLD
\$1,683.90 US (+\$14.50)

THE SWEETNESS OF A GOOD BOOK



JUST
SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

When you're a reader, there's nothing like finding a new series.

It's even better when, by the time you stumble upon it, there is already a bunch written that you can plow through with relish.

That's what happened with *A Song of Ice and Fire* (Game of Thrones), George R.R. Martin's wildly fascinating sword-and-sorcery epic. I got to it as Volume 3, *A Storm of Swords*, was released. As each book is well over 1,000 pages, I had at least three weeks of uninterrupted delight.

But then, I had to wait along with all the other geeks for Martin to continue the agonizingly slow process of churning out Nos. 4 and 5. Still to come, Nos. 6 and 7, and who knows when they'll be ready? Martin has apparently never met a book tour, fantasy conference or editing project he can resist. With any luck, we'll both be around for *The End*, but the odds are growing increasingly long ... or is that short?

Which is why, if you haven't encountered Flavia de Luce until now, this is your lucky day. You have something to do while waiting for Martin's *The Winds of Winter*.

Flavia de Luce is an 11-year-old girl who lives in a rundown manor house in the English village of Bishop's Lacey in 1950. She solves murders, assisted by a fully stocked chemistry lab left by her uncle, her bicycle Gladys, and an 11-year-old's still-fresh curiosity.

Yeah, I know. But, world of wonders, these books, starting with *The Sweetness at the*

Bottom of the Pie, currently culminating in Volume 4, *I Am Half-Sick of Shadows*, are good.

Better than good.

Even crazier? They are written by a 74-year-old Canadian man, Alan Bradley, originally from Cobourg, Ont., who spent 25 years as a director of TV engineering at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. He retired to Kelowna, B.C., where he expected to go gently, etc., when a cataclysmic 2003 forest fire that nearly engulfed his house caused him to re-examine his scorched priorities and start writing like an 11-year-old girl.

He'd never even been to England until 2007, when he went to pick up the first of Flavia's multitude of awards, but that didn't prevent him from nailing the Agatha Christie English-village murder mystery.

Of course, there aren't a lot of 74-year-old men who can write like an 11-year-old girl, but Bradley seems to have little trouble channelling his inner Flavia, who is by turns funny, solemn, wise, petulant, insightful, kind and, above all, curious. The kind of curious that killed the cat, essential in a murder mystery.

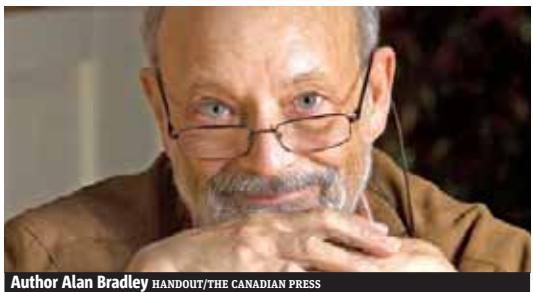
Hermione Granger meets Sherlock Holmes.

The good news gets even better. Unlike George R.R. Martin, Bradley has discipline and reliably finishes one of his novels a year. The next one is due, according to Amazon, in two weeks. Another volume in the series of 10 (say it ain't so!) arrives in early 2014.

Oh, and Hollywood director Sam Mendes has bought the TV rights, so stay tuned ...



Read an excerpt from the book *Speaking from Among the Bones* at metronews.ca.



Author Alan Bradley HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Hands up, who's the cutest?



KATHERINE FENG/MINDEN PICTURES/SOLENT

High five!

Newborn panda says hello to world

It appears this baby panda was born for the limelight as he smiles and waves adorably in front of the camera. The 37-day-old cub seemed to enjoy his photo shoot after he was weighed, measured and fed by medics. This charming image was taken at Wolong National Nature Reserve's giant panda conservation centre in Sichuan, China. METRO

Photographer's view



"I think the cubs start looking cute at about four weeks when they are unmistakably baby pandas. At that age, they are poly-poly balls of black and white."

Dr. Katherine Feng,
veterinarian/photographer

Fancy dress for good

Staff wear panda costumes

Wolong made news in 2010 after staff decided to don furry panda costumes.

"We came up with the idea because captive pandas are too familiar with people. But by rearing them using panda suits, the baby panda would grow up never seeing any people," researcher Huang Yan said.

This way, Yan hopes, pandas who will return to the wild won't be too dependent on humans. METRO



Twitter

@c_wong126: The really nice bus drivers #yourrock #ets #yeg

@balisally: It's currently warmer in #YEG than #YVR!!

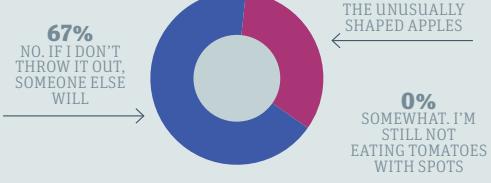
@cweiland44: Thankyou city of Edmonton. The perfect time to do construction is during rush hour by the university. #not #yeg

@robchartrand: #yeg #dearfoot



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Will a new report saying up to half of the world's food is wasted change your consuming habits?



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Lindsay Lohan

Lohan still owes \$300K to former attorney

Lindsay Lohan recently parted ways with her long-suffering attorney, Shawn Holley, but apparently there's still some unfinished business between them.

"Lindsay owes Shawn more than \$300,000 in legal fees and she hasn't made any payments in over six months," a source tells Radar Online. "Lindsay hadn't paid anything for any of the work Shawn has done on her three new criminal charges of lying

to cops, in connection with her car accident in Santa Monica last summer. Shawn has kept Lindsay out of jail for over five years now and she has no idea how good she has had it. Shawn is extremely respected by judges and prosecutors and that has benefited Lindsay greatly. Lindsay's new criminal attorney, Mark Heller, isn't even based in Los Angeles and certainly doesn't have the revered reputation that Shawn does."

Twitter



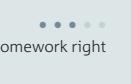
@SteveCarell

Apparently, once you have appeared on television, you are qualified to be a fashion designer.



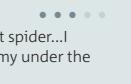
@ParisJackson

i should probably start that biology homework right about now, aye ?



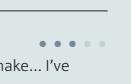
@kirstiealley

I think I accidentally murdered my pet spider...I stepped on a spider in the hallway ...my under the cabinet spider is MIA



@Sethrogen

I have a very shocking admission to make... I've been doping.



METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Spears' father arranged split with ex-fiancé?

Britney Spears reportedly had nothing to do with her breakup with ex-fiancé Jason Trawick, as the split was orchestrated by Trawick and Spears' father, Jamie Spears, who still has legal control of her personal life and finances, according to Radar Online.

"It really wasn't Britney's decision to announce the split last week, it was Jamie who made the call," a source says. "Jason wanted

out, and in the fragile state that Britney is in, it's not like he could have a rational conversation with her about it, so it was really between him and Jamie. Britney was left out of everything and really didn't even know what was going on."

The biggest surprise, though, is exactly how in the dark Spears apparently is about her personal life.

"Jason and Jamie wanted to make sure that Britney didn't lose it, so they had to water things down for her a bit," the source says. "She still hasn't exactly grasped yet that the relationship is totally over."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Jennifer Lawrence and Bradley Cooper

Couple's romance only on screen, says Cooper

Oscar nominees Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence fall for each other in Silver Linings Playbook, but Cooper wants to quash any rumours of the recently single stars dating in real life.

"I love her to death. She's amazing, but no," Cooper tells Entertainment

Tonight about the prospect of him and Lawrence together. "No, no, no, no. Not even close. First of all, I could be her father. No, I'm kidding. But no, not even close." Lawrence, for her part, isn't offended, responding to his statement with, "True. I agree. I concur."

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A promotional image for the movie Parker. It features a man in a suit holding a gun, standing in front of a red background. To the right is a movie poster for 'PARKER' with the tagline 'A PASS FOR TWO TO A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING OF PARKER'. Below the poster is a small circular logo for 'club metro.com' with the text 'VISIT club metro.com TO ENTER'.

IN THEATRES JANUARY 25TH

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Kristen Stewart

Stewart joins Pattinson after awards ceremony

Kristen Stewart may not have joined Robert Pattinson for the Golden Globes ceremony itself, but when she met up with him at an after-party at the Soho House, the On the Road actress wouldn't leave his side, according to Us Weekly. "They hung out

and stayed close for over an hour," a source says of Pattinson and Stewart, who arrived in a less than red carpet-ready look of jeans and a backward hat. The pair then left with a group of friends including Sienna Miller for another party.

Lost and Lord of the Rings star Dominic Monaghan gets wild this year on OLN's new series Wild Things with Dominic Monaghan, which premieres Monday. Metro picked Monaghan's brain on his favourite escapes.

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca



MTKPONE/Flickr

The rainforests of Ecuador

"Ecuador is a pretty beautiful part of the world, but I quickly get out of any cities, like Quito and make a full-day journey into the jungle, which is a drive to a boat, then a boat to a car, then a car to another boat and then finally ending up at this place called the Tiputini Research Centre, which is one of the places I based myself out of when I was making Wild Things. It's an extremely remote, extremely isolated research centre in the middle of the rainforest. It doesn't even appear on the map. If you want to experience what it's like to be out in the middle of nowhere surrounded by one of the most wild and unforgiving natural environments in the world, that's a pretty good kicking off place."

5

spots that drive Dominic Monaghan wild



New Zealand's south islands

"Some of my happiest times travelling around have been exploring the south islands of New Zealand. New Zealand is obviously a very modernized country but the south islands have some pockets that have kept their natural beauty. My favourite way to experience that is to just rent a car and take a ferry from Picton on the southern point of the north island and get dropped off at the northern point of the south island and then just drive down to Queenstown over the coast for maybe three or four days, stopping in different places. It's a wild and blustery kind of place. You can see a lot of the places where we filmed sequences in Lord of the Rings. New Zealand is called the land of the long white cloud. It's just a really beautiful place to go to."



Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

"I really like Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam. It's a very, very busy, crazy city with a lot of influences from many parts of the world. The French influence can be felt and Thailand and Cambodia have a bit of an influence here. It's just one of those cities where it gets busier and busier as the night gets on. Once the sun goes down the city really comes to life with a lot of noise and a lot of really interesting food you can buy on the street and friendly people and cool things to check out. There's a lot of people watching, going to squares and seeing some of the craziness."



The islands of Thailand

"Some of the islands up the coast of Thailand are pretty beautiful, like Ko Tao and Ko Samui. I really like going to a place called Krabi. They are pretty experienced with stuff like scuba diving and snorkelling and any kind of water activity you might want to do. There are amazing people in Thailand, really fantastic food, it's a great escape. I had some of the best food of my life and they're football crazy — they like soccer like I do. Manchester United games are a big deal for them in the same way they're a big deal for me."

GETTY IMAGES



Berlin

"I go to Berlin a lot. It's not the most exotic of locations in the world in terms of jungles and crazy animals, but I was born in Berlin. It's a really interesting city, great architecture. It's got nice food. German food is a little heavy, but it's very tasty. They also do a pretty good line in beer and Berlin is one of those cities that feels like it's being dictated to by the young. The younger people are making the decisions there. There's a great culture of street art and graffiti, the museums are really interesting, there's great style on the street, there's great bars and cool music."



Jasper heats up for annual winter festival

Jumping January.

Two-week event has mountain town hosting outdoor adventures, contests and a chili cook-off

It's like a big small-town party in the mountains.

Jasper in January is an annual festival scheduled smack-dab in the middle of winter for those brave enough to celebrate the cold instead of running off to the beaches of Mexico.

"We don't all have to hibernate throughout the winter," says Mary Darling, a spokeswoman with Tourism Jasper. "There's still things you can do."

Family fun, evening entertainment and outdoor adventures — many of them free — take place daily over two weeks, bringing the town of 5,000 to nearly double its size.

Picture it: making gooey s'mores over an outdoor fire,

strapping on snowshoes surrounded by majestic mountains, throwing snowballs inside a pub while sipping a pint of beer, even sporting a Speedo while leaping into an icy lake.

"It's rejuvenating," says Peter Scott, a local electrician who plans to participate in his fourth Polar Bear Dip this Sunday.

Nestled in the Rocky Mountains, Jasper is about a 3 1/2-hour drive west of Edmonton. To many, it's considered Banff's little sister. But that's not necessarily a bad thing. While Banff is crowded and commercial, Jasper is quiet and laid-back.

History shows Jasper was a place where people lived before it became a travel destination. It was settled as a fur trading post, then designated a national park in 1907.

The addition of hotels, spas and five-star restaurants hasn't dampened its cosy and comfortable feel. And Jasper in January captures that allure, right from

If you go...

- **Jasper in January.** Event runs through Jan. 27.
- **Deals.** Most hotels are offering hot deals during the festival and Marmot Basin is also giving discounts on its ski lift tickets.
- **For more information.** Including a full calendar of events, check out jasperinjanuary.com.

ice skating on a frozen pond to noshing on some homemade chili.

In fact, the chili cook-off this Friday night is the only event that has carried on each year since the festival started 24 years ago. Would-be chefs team up and mix pots of chili at the local activity centre, creating more than a dozen flavours that anyone can buy and sample.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



A chili cook-off has been a staple of Jasper in January for 24 years. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Happy Birthday Tube you, London subway

World's oldest metro.

While some may rail on London's people mover, the subterranean train has a storied history

Busy, congested, stressful. This is how the world's first subway system was depicted by London newspapers in 1863. It's a situation that would be familiar to nail-biting passengers of the present as the Tube turned 150 years old Wednesday.

"The constant cry, as the trains arrived, of 'no room,' appeared to have a very depressing effect upon those assembled," The Guardian newspaper reported on the public opening of London's Metropolitan Line on Jan. 10, 1863. The first stretch of rail had opened the day before, on Jan. 9.

The line — the first part of what is now an extensive London transport network that has shaped the British capital and its suburbs — ran 120 trains each way during the day, carrying up to 40,000 excited passengers. Extra steam locomotives and cars were called in to handle the crowds.

Architectural historian David Lawrence said the rapid expansion of the subway network — better known in London as the Tube — had a major impact on the city's design. The Tube helped lure people away from the inner city into new areas where new housing was being built near the stations.

The houses were built in a village style mocked by some historians as already dated.

"They were selling an England which had already passed by that time," said Lawrence, a principal lecturer at Kingston University.

In 1919, the Metropolitan company became directly involved in developing what came to be called "Metroland" on surplus land. One of the company's promotional posters displayed drab rows of inner city terrace houses and urged people to, "Leave this and move to Edgware."

However, they were also selling the dual benefit of a quiet, unpolluted suburban life paired with rapid access to the cultural and economic benefits of the metropolis, Lawrence said. The pioneering Metropolitan Line sparked a new wave of underground development which today has grown into a 402-kilometre system carrying

Taking aim at the Tube

Like many an innovation, the proposal to build a 4.8 kilometre underground rail line from Paddington Station in central London to Farringdon on the edge of the financial district in the east aroused great skepticism and criticism when it was first proposed. The editorial in The Times of London at the time found the concept repulsive: "A subterranean railway under London was awfully suggestive of dank, noisome tunnels buried many fathoms deep beyond the reach of light or life; passages inhabited by rats, soaked with sewer drippings and poisoned by the escape of gas mains," the newspaper declared.

1.2 billion passenger journeys each year.

Although Londoners love to complain about its sometimes sketchy performance, the Tube and its related rail lines can be a remarkably efficient way to move vast numbers of people in and out of the city, with roughly 3.5 million journeys completed each day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Metropolitan 1, a restored steam train built in 1898, travels from Kensington Olympia Tube station to Moorgate station in London as part of the celebrations for the 150th anniversary of the London Underground. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Buttermilk makes move from breakfast table to dinner superstar

First, a buttermilk primer. As its name suggests, buttermilk is the tangy milk-like liquid left behind when cultured cream is churned to make butter. At least that's how they made it in the old days. Today, it's usually commercially produced by adding cultures (think the bacteria that produces yogurt) to low- or no-fat milk.

We've all had buttermilk pancakes and waffles, but most people don't realize just how versatile an ingredient buttermilk is. And it belongs on the dinner table as much as at breakfast.

Ingredients

- 1-lb pork tenderloin
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 tbsp plus 1 tsp Thai red curry paste, divided
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 2 cups panko breadcrumbs
- 1/2 tsp ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp cider vinegar
- 4 burger rolls
- Boston or other leafy lettuce
- 1 large tomato, sliced

Let's start with buttermilk's signature tang. It's tangy because it's acidic, and acidic ingredients make for great marinades. Give chicken, pork or turkey a buttermilk bath and you'll get especially tender, flavourful meat. Before you add the meat, just whisk in whatever seasonings you want. That's how it's used in these Buttermilk-Soaked Pork Cutlet Sandwiches.

And that same tang turns out killer mashed potatoes. Use it in place of regular milk, then mash away. Ditto for sweet potatoes. Lastly, next time you're making vinaigrette for your salad or roasted vegetables, add buttermilk for rich, luxurious flavour. Try a blend of olive oil, buttermilk, lemon juice, strawberry jam, salt and black pepper.

1. Cut the tenderloin crosswise into thin rounds, each about 1/4 inch thick. One at a time, set each round between sheets of plastic wrap and pound evenly thin using a meat mallet or rolling pin.

2. In medium bowl, whisk

Buttermilk-Soaked Pork Cutlet Sandwiches



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

together the buttermilk, 1 tablespoon of the red curry paste and salt. Add the pork and ensure it is evenly covered by the liquid. Refrigerate this for at least 1 hour and up to 8 hours.

3. When ready to cook, heat the oven to 400 F. Coat a baking sheet with cooking spray.

4. In a wide, shallow bowl, mix the breadcrumbs and pepper. Remove the pork cutlets from the marinade. Dredge each piece through the breadcrumbs, patting them on as needed to coat evenly. Arrange the pork cutlets on the prepared baking sheet.

5. Bake 10 minutes, or until

cooked through.

6. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, whisk together the remaining 1 teaspoon of red curry paste, the mayonnaise and vinegar. Slather a quarter of the mixture over the bottom half of each burger roll. Top with lettuce and tomato, then 1 or 2 pork cutlets. Serve. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Brrberry Tea

There is nothing quite like a hot cup of tea to keep the winter blues away.

And when you add three types of alcohol to the mix, you have a whole new type of tea.

- 5 oz brandy
- 5 oz amaretto
- 5 oz triple sec
- Chai tea
- Splash orange juice
- Garnish orange wheel
- Garnish cinnamon stick

Add liquor, liqueur, juice and tea bag to glass. Add hot water. Garnish with cinnamon stick and stir. Add orange wheel garnish.

PHOTO AND RECIPE COURTESY OF FIRKIN PUBS. FIRKIN-PUBS.COM



Grapefruit adds dash of tang to quick-cooking pork chops

The preparation time and cooking time of this dish are negligible, but you must allow enough time for marinating. Serve the chops with sticky rice to complement the Asian flavours.

Be sure to grease your grill before adding the meat and grapefruit wedges.

1. Using fine grater, remove 1 ml (1/4 tsp) of the grapefruit rind and place in a shallow dish that is large enough to hold the pork chops. Cut grapefruit in half and squeeze out the juice to get 45 ml (3 tbsp) of grape-

Ingredients

- 2 pink grapefruits, scrubbed
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) sodium-reduced soy sauce
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) liquid honey
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 clove garlic, finely grated or rashed
- 5 ml (1 tsp) finely grated or rashed fresh ginger
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground coriander
- 4 boneless pork loin chops
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- Fresh cilantro leaves



This recipe serves four. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

fruit juice and add to dish. Cut remaining grapefruits into thick wedges and set aside.

2. Whisk soy sauce, honey, chopped cilantro, garlic, ginger and coriander into grapefruit juice. Add pork chops and turn to coat well. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour or up to 8 hours.

3. Remove chops from marinade and sprinkle with pepper.

Place pork chops on a greased grill, indoor grill or grill pan over medium-high heat for 5 minutes. Turn over and grill for about 5 minutes or until a hint of pink remains. Meanwhile, add grapefruit wedges to grill for about 5 minutes, turning once, or until golden and tender. (Alternatively, pan-fry pork chops in a non-stick skillet over medium heat, turning once, for about 12 minutes. Add grapefruit wedges for the last 5 minutes.

utes. Or place pork chops on parchment paper-lined baking sheet and roast in a 200 C (425 F) oven for about 12 minutes or until hint of pink remains. Add grapefruit wedges for last 5 minutes to warm them through.)

4. Serve grapefruit wedges with pork chops and sprinkle with cilantro leaves, if desired. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CITRUS

Elegant Pork Tenderloin with Fruit and Nuts



meat thermometer inserted in centre registers 71 C (160 F).

5. Let stand 10 mins. before slicing into 2-cm (3/4-inch) thick slices.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ FOODLAND ONTARIO

Ingredients

- 1 pork tenderloin (625 to 750 g/1 1/4 to 1 1/2 lb)
- 2 slices bacon, chopped
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) diced onion
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) dry seasoned breadcrumbs
- 1 apple, peeled, cored and chopped
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) chopped toasted walnuts
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) cranberries, halved if large
- 5 ml (1 tsp) chopped fresh sage leaves
- Chicken broth or water
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil

Backing up your career in chiropractics

Throw me a bone.

From paperwork to placement, get advice on this pain-relieving pursuit from those who know it best

TUEN MUN
ONG
TalentEgg.ca

Each step on your way to becoming a chiropractor has its challenges. I asked three recently graduated chiropractors to share their advice on how to survive and navigate the world of applications, school and work.

The Chiropractors

Dr. Joe Pratlie and Dr. Joy Arciaga both graduated from Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) in 2011 and have each been practicing for one-and-a-half years. They currently work at Vita Integrative Health Clinic in Toronto.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Applications and preparation

Writing applications and waiting for answers from schools is always a stressful part of pursuing a career. What is your advice to students writing applications and hoping to get into chiropractic?

Dr. Joy Arciaga: When you're writing your applications, just be honest. If chiropractic is right for you, then you really have no reason to be anything other than honest. It's easy to say the things that the board wants to hear, but at the same time it has to be congruent with what you really believe in.

I completely agree on the waiting part. It is probably the most nerve-wracking part of the application process and it feels like you're waiting forever. There is no concrete advice I can offer here except be positive. You've done all the work. All the T's are crossed and the I's have been dotted. The interview is done. It's out of your hands.

Dr. Joe Pratlie: Does it allow you to always be learning? Second, does it allow you to always be dreaming? Third, does it always allow you to always be taking risks to live up to your full potential? Fourth, does it allow you to find a cause higher than yourself and devote yourself to it? These will help you simply and help you build clarity in a complex situation. Fear has no place in a focused mind.



Writing out your school application doesn't have to be a pain in the neck. Just be honest! iSTOCK

On the pursuit

Any advice on preparing yourself for pursuing chiropractic?

Pratlie: Take these three ideas into consideration. First, do you like school? Buckle up, it's four more years. Second, read some chiropractic literature, magazines, and books on the topic to see if the natural healing philosophy and paradigm is right for you. Third, be prepared to study the business side of chiropractic as well, like marketing, advertising and so on.

You will have options coming out, but ultimately if you want to be your own boss, run your own clinic, or at least be a part of one, you will have to know how to streamline office procedures and build a clinic atmosphere. Customer and patient satisfaction and loyalty will always come from the tone you set and the care you take in your office protocols. In today's world of efficiency, people demand it these days and you will want to hit the ground running if possible.

My advice: Learn from a current chiropractor or health practitioner that, as close as possible, embodies how you would like to be in practice. Success leaves clues, now all you have to do is ask great questions that build clarity and take action steps. If you want anything in this world bad enough, you'll make it work.

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It's not all about dashing docs

New to nursing?

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Expect the unexpected

"You need to be prepared for everything because you can never predict what might come through the doors."

Abigail Keeso
Registered nurse in the infectious diseases department at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

ical day! Depending on which area of the department I am assigned to, I could be helping to set and cast broken bones, or I could be the trauma nurse, working with a team of doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists or paramedics to resuscitate a patient in cardiac arrest.

The ER I work in sees all types of patients — from children to geriatric. The youngest patient I have ever cared for was 45 minutes old and the oldest was 105 years old. You need to be prepared for everything because you can never predict what might come through the doors.

Keeso: Depending on how sick my patients are, I can have anywhere from one to three patients. I go through my patients' care plans to get an understanding of their diagnosis and the plan of care. After I have briefed myself,

I then sit down with the nurse from the previous shift so he or she can tell me what has happened over the last 12 hours.

Then, I hit the floor running, introducing myself to my patients and their families, building those relationship, checking vital signs,

blood work, dressing changes, specimen collection, hanging IV solutions, giving

medications, etc.

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ASHLEIGH TRAHAN
TalentEgg.ca

Ever wondered what it's actually like to work day in and day out as a nurse? Or if they ever bump into McDreamy?

For those who are on their way to a career in nursing, we've got the skinny on what it's like to be a young nurse from two women who are working hard to keep their communities healthy.

Erin Okanik is a nurse at Kitchener-Waterloo's Grand River Hospital, where she has been working as a registered nurse since graduating from Western University in 2009. As if being a busy full-time emergency room nurse wasn't enough, she is also currently completing her master's degree.

Abigail Keeso graduated from Ryerson University in

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4 SPORTS



Edmonton Oilers forward Sam Gagner carries the puck as defenceman Taylor Fedun chases and goalie Devan Dubnyk prepares for the shot during training camp on Tuesday in Edmonton. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

‘Old guy’ Gagner ready to be a leader

NHL. Shifty forward among longest-serving Oilers on young team

At the tender age of 23, Sam Gagner has already become one of the Edmonton Oilers’ “old guys.”

Heading into his sixth NHL season, the shifty forward has reason to look at himself as one of the team’s veterans and leaders. Only four players in camp have been with the club as long as him — Ryan Smith, Shawn Horcoff, Ales Hemsky and Ladislav Smid.

“I want to look at it that way,” said Gagner, a soft-spoken native of London, Ont. “I’ve been here long enough. I

Quoted

“Hemmer’s really a setter and Nail’s got one of the best one-timers I’ve seen from a young player, ever. And a hard wrist-shot to boot. Ales, with his movement, is excellent at finding players. And Sam can augment both of them.” Oilers coach Ralph Krueger on the line of Sam Gagner, Ales Hemsky and Nail Yakupov.

want to be in a leadership role. I think I’m ready for that and I’m excited for that challenge.”

Since joining the Oilers as an 18-year-old, Gagner has helped welcome a series of even younger players: No. 1 draft picks Taylor Hall and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, first-round pick Jordan Eberle and now free-agent defenceman Justin Schultz and another No. 1 pick,

Russian forward Nail Yakupov.

Through the first two days of training camp, Gagner has been centring Yakupov and Hemsky, a trio the team is looking to for offensive production to back up the top line of Hall, Nugent-Hopkins and Eberle.

Gagner is excited about playing with Hemsky and Yakupov if head coach Ralph Krueger sticks with his lines, and

with just a six-day camp that seems likely.

“They obviously have a lot of skill and a lot of speed,” he said. “For myself, I just have to make sure I’m pushing my legs every night and doing my best to help them out. And they can help me out and we should have great chemistry.”

Gagner says he’s willing if the coaching staff is looking for him to help mentor Yakupov.

“Nail has a lot of talent and he’s coming into the league at 18,” he said. “I came into the league at 18 and I feel I’ve learned a lot over my five years. There’s been a lot of ups and downs and I want to take my game to another level, and if I can help him make the transition then so be it.”

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Australian Open

Li Na advances to third round with straight-sets win

Li Na has advanced to the third round of the Australian Open for the fourth consecutive year with a 6-2, 7-5 win over Olga Govortsova of Belarus on Wednesday.

The 2011 French Open champion is trying to add a second Grand Slam title, and the Australian Open appears to be her best chance. She advanced to the 2010 semifinals, the 2011 final — losing to Kim Clijsters — and the fourth round last year.

Li faced two set points at 5-3 in the ninth game of the second set but came back to level the set at 5-5 before breaking Govortsova’s serve to clinch the match.

Li converted five of her six breakpoint chances, while Govortsova was just 2-for-10.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oprah interview

Armstrong must fess up under oath to have shot at ending ban: WADA

Lance Armstrong must make a full confession under oath — not just an admission in a television interview with Oprah Winfrey — if he wants authorities to consider lifting his lifetime ban from sports, the director of the World Anti-Doping Agency said Tuesday.

WADA director general David Howman told The Associated Press that Armstrong’s interview with Winfrey is “hardly the same as giving evidence to a relevant authority” that deals with doping rules and sanctions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Latest draft rankings push Jones to No. 1



Seth Jones, pictured at the USA Hockey All-American Prospects Game on Sept. 29 in Buffalo, has been ranked the top draft-eligible player in the Central Scouting Bureau's mid-season report. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Quoted

“The fact that he’s living up to his expectation, that really sits well with a lot of scouts.”

Central Scouting director Dan Marr, on Seth Jones.

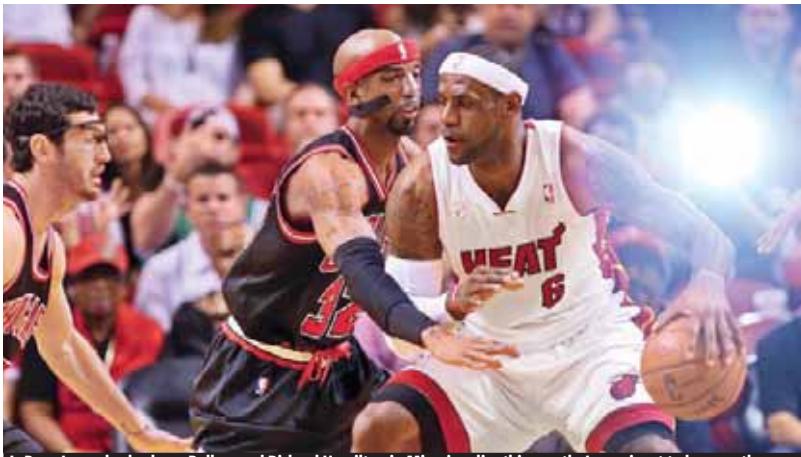
positional need rather than drafting the best available player.

“It was just by a slim margin that Seth is sitting (ahead) in the first ranking right now,” Central Scouting director Dan Marr said from Halifax. “But this is a very fluid

first overall (position) heading into this year’s draft.”

Jones, from Arlington, Texas, came up through the U.S. National Team Development Program and has blossomed in the Western Hockey League, leading all rookie WHL blue-liners with 28 points in 33 games.

The son of former NBA player Popeye Jones, the six-foot-three, 208-pounder has eight goals, 20 assists and a plus-29 rating with the Winterhawks. Jones also guided the American team to a gold medal at the recent world junior hockey championship. THE CANADIAN PRESS



LeBron James backs down Bulls guard Richard Hamilton in Miami earlier this month. James is set to become the youngest player ever to reach the 20,000-point plateau, needing just 18 more going into Wednesday's game against the Warriors in Oakland. MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY IMAGES

20K for LBJ: James pushing pace for scoring supremacy

NBA. Miami superstar set to become youngest to reach 20,000, and he could 'have a lot more points by now'

LeBron James was the youngest player in NBA history to win rookie of the year, to record a triple-double, to score 1,000 points, to score 10,000 points, to win MVP honours at an all-star game ...

You get the idea.

His latest youngest-to-do-it milestone could come as early as Wednesday. He needs 18 points to become the 38th NBA player to score 20,000 in his career. If it happens Wednesday when the Miami Heat visit the Golden State Warriors, James will be more than a year younger than anyone else to reach the mark.

"You look at how many players have come through this league, the history of the

game," James said. "That 20K mark is very limited. How many guys have done that? It's very, very limited."

"It'll be big-time. I'm not going to shy away from that. I'm not a big stats guy as far as individual, but that'll be pretty cool."

James' teammates say he could have reached 20,000 even faster.

"If LeBron was a different kind of player, he'd have a lot more points by now," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said. "He's so unselfish. We give him the ball enough to score more. He just won't do it. We've had the discussion. We've sat down at dinner and we both said, 'Sometimes, I wish I had it in me.' We talk about it, we joke about it, but when the game comes he's unselfish."

Considering James has scored at least 18 points in 74 of his last 75 games, including playoffs, the milestone would seem likely to be met against the Warriors. It's the

Legendary company
If LeBron James scores the historic 20,000th point on Wednesday, he will have done so at the age of 28 years, 17 days.

- According to STATS LLC, the youngest to date to score 20,000 points was Kobe Bryant, who got there when he was 29 years, 122 days old.
- And only Bryant, Wilt Chamberlain (29 years, 134 days) and Michael Jordan (29 years, 326 days) reached the milestone before turning 30.

next-to-last game of a struggle-filled road swing for the Heat. Miami is 1-3 so far on the trip.

Maybe a little celebrating is exactly what the Heat need right now.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Nets grab another win vs. Raptors

Brook Lopez had 22 points and nine rebounds, Joe Johnson and Deron Williams each scored 21 points, and the Brooklyn Nets extended their season-high winning streak to seven games with a 113-106 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Tuesday night.

The Nets are in the midst of their longest winning streak since running off 14 in a row late in the 2005-06 season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Nets centre Brook Lopez shoots over Raptors forward Ed Davis, left, and centre Aaron Gray on Tuesday in Brooklyn. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clippers rise over Rockets in Houston

Jamal Crawford scored a season-high 30 points, including 12 straight to start the fourth quarter, and the Los Angeles Clippers looked just fine without Chris Paul in a 117-109 win over the struggling Houston Rockets on Tuesday night.

The Clippers won their second game in a row despite missing their star point guard, who is day-to-day with a bruised right kneecap. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

With Pronger out, Flyers hand 'C' to Giroux

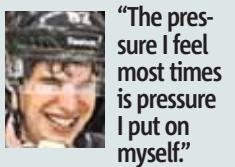
The Philadelphia Flyers have named Claude Giroux the 19th captain in team history.

General manager Paul Holmgren made the announcement Tuesday night.

Giroux takes over for defenceman Chris Pronger, who has not played since Nov. 19, 2011, and still suffers from lingering effects of multiple concussions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL



"The pressure I feel most times is pressure I put on myself."

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby.

Crosby insists the headaches and concussion-like symptoms that plagued him over the last two seasons have vanished. They disappeared over the summer, when Crosby began his annual summer ritual back home in Canada of pushing himself beyond his limits in an effort to regain the form that made him the most dominant player on the planet before a pair of hits to the head in January 2011 seemed to put his career in jeopardy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	24	12	.667	—
New York	24	13	.649	1/2
Indiana	24	15	.615	1 1/2
Brooklyn	23	15	.605	2
Chicago	21	15	.583	3
Atlanta	21	16	.568	3 1/2
Boston	20	17	.542	4 1/2
Milwaukee	19	17	.528	—
Philadelphia	16	23	.410	9 1/2
Detroit	14	24	.368	11
Toronto	14	24	.368	11
Orlando	13	24	.351	11 1/2
Charlotte	9	29	.237	16
Cleveland	9	31	.225	17
Washington	7	28	.200	16 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	30	8	.789	—
L.A. Clippers	30	9	.769	1/2
San Antonio	29	11	.725	2
Memphis	24	12	.667	7
Golden State	23	13	.639	6
Denver	24	16	.600	7
Houston	21	18	.538	9 1/2
Portland	20	18	.526	10
Utah	21	19	.525	10
Minnesota	16	19	.457	12 1/2
L.A. Lakers	16	21	.432	13 1/2
Dallas	16	23	.410	14 1/2
Sacramento	14	24	.368	16
Phoenix	13	27	.325	18
New Orleans	12	26	.316	18

Tuesday's results

Brooklyn 113	Toronto 106
Denver 115	Portland 111 (OT)
Indiana 103	Charlotte 76
L.A. Clippers 117	Houston 109
New Orleans 111	Philadelphia 99
Milwaukee 101	L.A. Lakers 97
Mondays' results	
Boston 100	Charlotte 89
Chicago 97	Atlanta 58
L.A. Clippers 99	Memphis 73
Dallas 113	Minnesota 98
Oklahoma City 102	Phoenix 90
Sacramento 124	Cleveland 118
Utah 101	Miami 97
Washington 120	Orlando 91
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern	
Chicago at Toronto, 7 p.m.	
Indiana at Orlando, 7 p.m.	
Brooklyn at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.	
New Orleans at Boston, 8 p.m.	
Denver at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.	
Houston at Dallas, 8 p.m.	
Memphis at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.	
Cleveland at Portland, 10 p.m.	
Washington at Sacramento, 10 p.m.	
Miami at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.	

NFL. Pats seek to improve kickoff coverage, defence late in halves in AFC final

It's a bad time for the New England Patriots to allow points late in halves and long kickoff returns throughout the game.

Fix that fast or the Baltimore Ravens and speedster Jacoby Jones could run them right out of the post-season.

The Patriots advanced to Sunday's AFC championship game with a 41-28 win over the Houston Texans despite giving up kickoff returns of 94 and 69 yards — the longest against them this season. They won even though they allowed 10 points in the last 1:15 of the first half and 15 points in the last 12 minutes of the game.

The Ravens moved on with a 38-35 double-overtime win over the Denver Broncos after Jones caught a 70-yard touchdown pass from Joe Flacco with 31 seconds left in regulation.

That's the same Jones who led the NFL in average kickoff return yardage (30.7) and brought back two of them for touchdowns. Yep, the same guy who drew a defensive pass interference call at the Patriots' seven-yard line

Quoted

"We have to do what we're doing better."

Patriots coach Bill Belichick

in Week 3, setting up Justin Tucker's 27-yard field goal on the final play. Baltimore won that game, 31-30.

New England can't afford another loss.

So coach Bill Belichick is emphasizing, as he does every week, the need to stop kickoff returners and keep teams from scoring with time running out in either half.

"We always think that the end of the half can get a little different than the rest of the game because of situational play," he said Tuesday. "Also, sometimes offensively, teams change their method of attack and what they're doing and how they're doing it and that kind of thing. So you have to adapt and adjust to what they do." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Sunday's results
AFC — New England 41 Houston 28
NFC — Atlanta 30 Seattle 28

Saturday's results
AFC — Baltimore 38 Denver 35 (2OT)
NFC — San Francisco 45 Green Bay 31

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday's games — All Times Eastern
NFC — San Francisco at Atlanta, 3 p.m.
AFC — Baltimore at New England, 6:30 p.m.

SUPER BOWL XLVII

Sunday, Feb. 3
At New Orleans, La.

AFC vs. NFC champions, 6 p.m.

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

At Melbourne, Australia
Tuesday's results
Men's Singles — First Round
Milos Raonic (13), Thornhill, Ont., def. Jan Hajek, Czech Rep., 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 7-6 (0).
Jesse Levine, Ottawa, def. Tommy Robredo, Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 6-4, 6-4.
Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Benoit Paire, France, 6-2, 6-4, 6-1.
Andy Murray (3), Britain, def. Robin Haase, Netherlands, 6-3, 6-1, 6-3.
Juan Martin del Potro (6), Argentina, def. Adrian Mannarino, France, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (7), France, def. Michael Llodra, France, 6-4, 7-5, 6-2.
Richard Gasquet (9), France, def. Albert Montanes, Spain, 7-5, 6-2, 6-1.
Marin Cilic (12), Croatia, def. Marinko Matosevic, Australia, 6-4, 7-5, 6-2.
Philipp Kohlschreiber (17), Germany, def. Steve Darcis, Belgium, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.
Women's Singles — First Round
Peng Shuai, China, def. Rebecca Marino, Vancouver, 6-3, 6-0.
Victoria Azarenka (1), Belarus, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 6-1, 6-4.
Serena Williams (3), U.S., def. Edina Gallovits-Hall, Romania, 6-0, 6-0.
Carla Suarez Navarro, Spain, def. Sara Errani (7), Italy, 6-4, 6-4.
Petra Kvitova (8), Czech Rep., def. Francesca Schiavone, Italy, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.
Caroline Wozniacki (10), Denmark, def. Sabine Lisicki, Germany, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Kimiko Date-Krumm, Japan, def. Nadia Petrova (12), Russia, 6-2, 6-0.

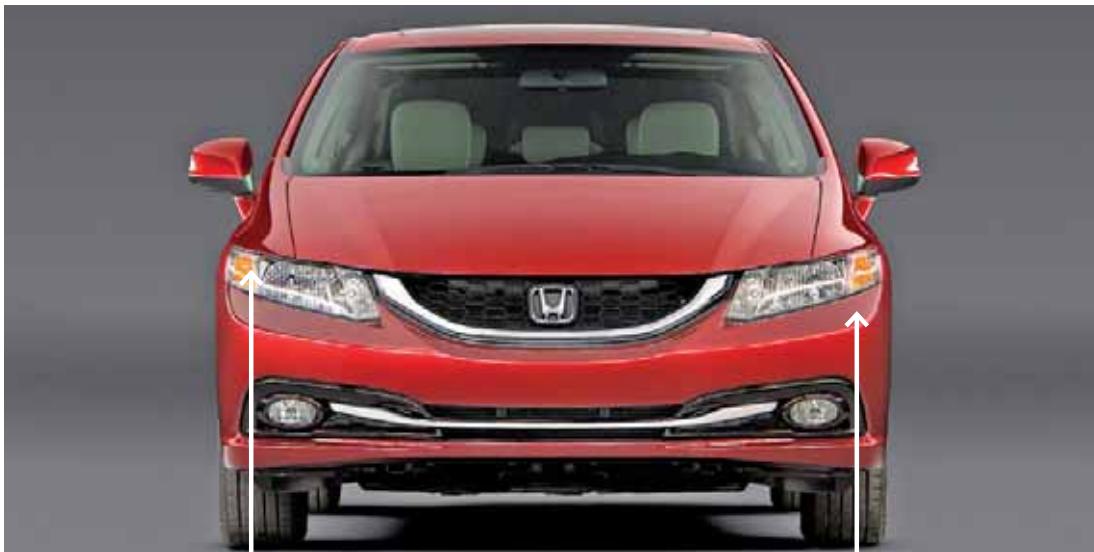
GOLF

PGA FEDEXCUP STANDINGS

Through Jan. 14 (all figures in U.S. dollars)

	Points	Money YTD
1. Russell Henley	500	\$1,008,000
2. Dustin Johnson	500	\$1,140,000
3. Tim Clark	300	\$604,800
4. Steve Stricker	300	\$665,000
5. Brandt Snedeker	190	\$432,000
6. Matt Kuchar	178	\$379,400
7. Charles Howell III	163	\$324,800
8. Scott Langley	163	\$324,800
9. Keegan Bradley	143	\$317,821
10. Tommy Gainey	128	\$258,876
11. Bubba Watson	123	\$304,000
12. Marc Leishman	120	\$218,600
13. Webb Simpson	116	\$215,667
14. Scott Piercy	110	\$210,000
15. Chris Kirk	100	\$204,400
16. Brian Stuard	100	\$204,400
17. Rickie Fowler	95	\$212,500
18. Carl Pettersson	94	\$202,096
19. John Huh	89	\$120,808
20. Jeff Overton	85	\$173,600
Also		
39. Stephen Ames	49	\$60,667
55. David Hearn	38	\$33,208
59. Brad Fritsch	33	\$26,376

2013 Honda Civic is here



By comparison



1 **Hyundai Elantra**
Base price: \$17,450

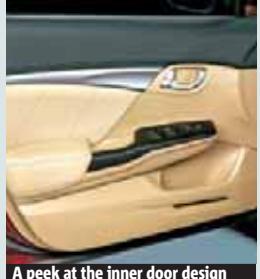


2 **Dodge Dart**
Base price: \$17,600

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Style

The sedan's adjustments include completely new front and rear bodywork encompassing a more prominent grille, restyled hood and new fog and corner lights. At the opposite end, a reshaped trunk lid and bumper are flanked by a fresh set of taillights. Additionally, all trim levels feature new wheel designs.



2013 Honda Civic

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan.
- **Engine (hp).** 1.8-litre SOHC I4 (140); 2.4-litre DOHC I4 (201)
- **Transmission.** Five-speed manual; five-speed automatic (opt.)
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$16,900

Engine

Back again is the standard 140-horsepower 1.8-litre four-cylinder engine with the optional 201-horsepower 2.4-litre four-cylinder repeating in the performance-oriented Si. The gas-electric Civic Hybrid's powertrain, which is rated at 110 horsepower, is unaltered.

Fuel economy

Fuel economy stats remain at 7.1 l/100 km in the city and 5.0 on the highway for automatic-transmission models (7.2/5.4 for manual-gearbox Civics and 4.4/4.2 for the fuel-efficient Hybrid). The more potent Si is rated at 10.0 l/100 km in the city and 6.4 highway.

Review. Maker fast, fine tuned new model after unjust 2012 criticism

**MALCOLM
GUNN**
Wheelbase Media

Well, there's nothing like a verbal poke in the eye to get your undivided attention.

Not all that long ago, Honda announced the mid-2011 arrival of its 2012-model-year Civic. Fans of the brand seemed pleased, as evidenced by the upwardly pointing sales charts.

However, the press and a certain advertising-free consumer magazine gave Honda a rough ride, reporting that the Civic had an uninspired look, average handling and plasticky interior.

Now, most automakers would have simply ignored those comments. Not so, Honda. Whether motivated by its competitive instincts or by a desire to simply do better (or both), it's introducing a heavily revised 2013 Civic sedan well ahead of schedule. What a difference just a single model year makes.

Structurally, changes have been initiated to improve the Civic's front-end collision

protection, especially at each corner. There's high-strength steel in the A-pillars (that flank the windshield) and in the side sills below the doors.

Changes have also been made to the suspension, steering and soundproofing materials to improve ride comfort, reduce cabin noise and create a sportier driving experience.

Honda has addressed concerns regarding the Civic's interior by giving the dashboard a major makeover. There are now fewer visually irritating creases and angles and most plastic surfaces have been covered with richer-looking soft-touch materials.



The interior is appealing and stylish

It could be argued that the newly energized Civic sedan is the car that Honda should have introduced for 2012, but at least the quick response in addressing concerns will impress the legions of Civic supporters and prove the automaker's ability to make rapid change.

Bespoke tailoring, for less than off-the-rack.

Sometimes engineers and designers actually do share the same vision. The Panamera Platinum Edition combines distinctive design details and options to create an exclusive ensemble at a remarkable price. Five Platinum Edition colours, specially selected to complement the unique silver exterior trim and contemporary two-tone black and beige interior design package. Front and rear ParkAssist with rear-view camera, 19 Panamera Turbo wheels, bi-xenon headlights and a BOSE surround sound system. Elegance and engineering, perfectly coordinated. Porsche. There is no substitute.

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*Price does not include documentation fee, freight and PDI. Vehicle in picture may not be exactly as shown. AMVIC licensed.

PORSCHE

After a quick check up, you will vote for this Lincoln

Second Gear.

2007-2010
Lincoln MKX

JUSTIN
PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

The MKX was Lincoln's entry to the luxury crossover segment occupied by such brands as BMW, Infiniti, Lexus and Audi when it hit the market for the 2010 model year.

Like most of its competition, it packed V6 power, available all-wheel drive (AWD), heaps of leather and numerous high-end features like a premium audio system by THX, leather seating, Bluetooth, navigation, an oversized sunroof and plenty more.

Common Issues

Reports of bad rear wheel bearings mean that test-drivers should listen for a fairly loud roaring noise from the rear of the vehicle. If present, be sure to have the repair calculated into your purchase price.

The sensors and computer that control the MKX's transmission may also be an issue — so note any clumsy, hard shifting or slipping as you drive. Transmission problems are likely to be electronic and not mechanical in nature — though shoppers are advised to ensure that this is the case. Shoppers should also check



PHOTO: HANDOUT

the MKX's underside (or have it checked professionally) for signs of leakage from the transmission, differential or PTU — which splits power up between the axles for the AWD system. Numerous owners have noted issues with these components leaking, which could cause problems. Check Engine or other warning lights can illuminate for numerous reasons — many of which are sensor-related. Be sure to note the presence of any such lights in the instrument cluster.

Engine

 All models got a six-speed automatic transmission and 3.5 litre, 265-horsepower engine. Front-wheel drive was standard and automatic AWD was optional.

What owners like

 Styling, comfort, power and handling are often highly-rated by MKX owners. The THX stereo system, interior roominess, flexibility and seat comfort are highly rated as well.

What owners dislike

 Many MKX owners wish for more steering feel, better fuel economy, and stronger feedback through the brake pedal.

Verdict

The MKX's unique style and sporty performance are likely to be big draws to it as a used vehicle — though a full check-over by a mechanic should be considered mandatory.

Put \$0 down on me, during our Final 2012 Civic Clearout.



MODEL SHOWN: 2012 CIVIC SEDAN SI

ALBERTA HONDA
9525-127th Avenue
780 474 8595

SHERWOOD HONDA
30 Automall Road
780 417 0005

POINTE WEST HONDA
10220 184th Street
780 483 4024

WHEATON HONDA
9688-34th Avenue
780 463 7888

FRONTIER HONDA
10 mins north of St. Albert on highway 2
Morinville - 780 939 3670



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[†]Limited time lease offers based on new 2012 Honda models. Lease examples based on a new 2012 Civic LX, model FB2E4CEX, available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. £0.99% lease APR for 48 months. Monthly payment, including freight and PDI, is \$238.00. Down payment of \$0, environmental fees, \$0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$11,424.00 Taxes, license, insurance, environmental fees and registration are extra. 96,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.12/km for excess kilometres. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. [#]MSRP is \$19,235.00 for a new 2012 Civic LX, model FB2E4CEX, and includes \$1,495.00 freight and PDI. Taxes, license, insurance, environmental fees and registration are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. [‡]No Payments for 90 days (payment deferral) is only applicable to purchase financing offers (O.A.C.) on all new 2012 and 2013 Honda models, purchased and delivered before January 31st, 2013. ^{†/‡} Offers valid from January 1, 2013 through January 31, 2013 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for Alberta residents at Honda Dealers of Alberta. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit HondaAlberta.ca or see your Honda retailer for full details.



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Detroit show sets party tone for '13



AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The North American economy is far from full recovery, but you wouldn't guess it over here at the Detroit auto show. It's a party.

Almost every brand is coming off a great 2012 sales year, and most have lots of new products coming on stream in 2013. And while there is always talk about new green advances, we're not getting hit over the head with them. Seems like the automakers know green is a given, and are happy to simultaneously work on and celebrate all the other stuff — the more fun stuff — that continues to forge that emotional connection many of us have with our vehicles.

Power to the People

And one of the most emotional-rich cars on the planet — the Chevrolet Corvette — kicked off the show with the unveiling of its latest iteration. Too many go-faster stuff to go through today, but highlights include



The new Maserati Quattroporte has a 191 mph top speed ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

450-horses, a seven-speed manual transmission that automatically matches revs for fast and smooth downshifts, and lots of aluminum and carbon fibre. The styling is muscular and purposeful, and was dictated, as is should be for a sports car of this calibre, by many sessions in the wind tunnel. Another notable performance beast that debuted at Detroit was the all-new Maserati Quattro-

porte. The outgoing model is incredibly beautiful and they were smart enough to more or less keep the same styling, and just make it bigger, faster and stronger. It's even lighter, to make better use of its awesome V6 and V8 Ferrari-made engines. Top speed on the V8 model is 191 mph.

Small and Spunky

All that power on display at



The Hyundai Genesis also impressed in Detroit

Detroit may have induced Honda CEO and presenter, Takanobu Ito, to remind everyone that Honda still feels that "small cars are the key to the future." He then unveiled the Honda Urban SUV Concept, a small SUV based on the Honda Fit platform. A production version of this concept, and the new-generation Fit coming in 2014, will both be produced at a plant Honda will open soon in

Mexico. The world's best selling car, Toyota Corolla, is due soon for its makeover, and at Detroit we got a glimpse of what the next-gen Corolla might look like, in the form of the Corolla Furia concept. It looks pretty sporty and righteous — especially for a Corolla. Toyota has gone on record recently saying they want/need to spice things up a bit, so I guess we shouldn't be surprised.

SUVs Forever

The show also reinforced that we are still clearly in the age of the SUV. There are so many of these things in the market now, and so many more to come. VW badly needs a "midsize" SUV with seven-seat capability. To that end it created the CrossBlue SUV concept, specifically for U.S. and Canada. Seven-seat SUVs have effectively replaced minivans, and CrossBlue retains one of the minivan's best features — individual seats in the rear (keeps siblings apart and happy). CrossBlue also features a diesel-electric plug-in hybrid powertrain. Lincoln also debuted an SUV concept. The Lincoln MKC is based on Ford's ubiquitous C-platform (think Focus and Escape), and would be, if built, the smallest Lincoln on offer. As we talked about before, luxury makers are no longer afraid to go "small."

More to Come

As the first auto show of 2013, Detroit often sets the mood for the coming automotive year. The mood was definitely up this year, higher than it's been since that kick in the rear called 2008. Party on Garth.

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No mountain? No deal. The right tire will have the right symbol

Driving Force.

When buying your vehicle's rubber, look for the mountain and snowflake logo to ensure it's for winter

JIL
MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

When you're buying tires for winter, you need to look for the mountain and snowflake. This little logo, of a snowflake inside a mountain peak, is molded into tires that meet the standard for winter tread.

However, while the logo indicates winter use, it means the tire meets a minimum standard and is not by itself a measure of the tire's quality. It's based on a tread pattern used as the industry standard. The tire must exceed the standard by 10 per cent to qualify for

Quoted

“The testing is very easy, in simple terms, because it’s basically straight-line performance.”

Dino Tenuta, senior technical services manager for Bridgestone Canada
On how winter tires are tested

when it's cold. The rubber compound in winter tires is formulated to stay flexible in low temperatures, which improves its grip on dry or icy pavement.

Their tread is more aggressive, which helps them bite into snow, but they're also designed to channel away slush and water. If slush builds up on the tire, it dramatically reduces the tire's grip.

On wet pavement, the tread pushes water away so the rubber makes contact with the asphalt below.

If it doesn't, the tire can "float" on the water above the asphalt, a dangerous situation known as hydroplaning.

All-season tires can be used in winter, although they are a compromise. Their rubber compound is designed to stay supple in colder temperatures and firm in hot weather, but their tread isn't as aggressive as that of a winter tire since it would be too noisy.

While many people think that winter tires are simply "snow tires," they're more than that. Rubber gets hard

Advice

- **Some tires are marked "Mud & Snow," or M/S.** This simply means it's an all-season tire, and is not specifically rated for winter if it doesn't have the mountain/snowflake logo
- **When to use.** You should use Winter tires any time the temperature drops below 7C, since their grip on cold pavement is better than an all-season tires

for summer use.

Some tires are called "all-weather," meaning they are all-season tires that have the mountain/snow-flake logo.

These can be used all year in jurisdictions where winter tires are mandatory, such as in Quebec, but they are still not as good for cornering or stopping as a dedicated winter tire.



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Audi RS5 passes with flying colours

Test drive. 2013 model shines during apocalypse-day exam in nasty blizzard

JUSTIN
PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

December 21, 2012. According to Facebook, the world was about to end in a fiery apocalypse, and I'd soon arrive in hell at 8,500 RPM with a smile on my face. Probably sideways.

I'd just picked up the Audi RS5 for review. It's powered by the same highly-strung V8 as the Audi R8 supercar. You get 450 horsepower, and a paddle-shift transmission that changes gears in fractions of a second. Thanks to Quattro AWD included as standard, you can enjoy all of those horsepower and gears all year round.

The RS5 would let your writer go out with a bang. It's like a supercar wearing touring car clothes. Or an R8 with a back seat. It's a track-tuned weapon, and the highest-performing machine in this model range. It's also a car that virtually stands alone in offering this level of performance and all-climate readiness in a single package.

And not that you'd pay a speeding ticket on apocalypse day, but from a glance, RS5 is discreet enough to slip past your local radar-cop unnoticed — so long as you aren't belting screamer V8 noises out of the watermelon-sized exhausts.

Late afternoon. No zombies, earthquakes or fireballs had yet presented themselves. Inch after powdery inch of fluffy snow, however, had. I'd taken apocalypse day off, and apparently (and delightfully), it

looked like the snow-plow drivers did, too.

I spent the afternoon exploring the RS5's highway capabilities in deep snow.

Point and shoot performance comes thanks to Quattro's extraction of maximum traction from any surface. No issues getting off the line or around corners, even with the front lip plowing snow. Turn the traction control off, and you can get around in as sideways, snow-flinging a manner as you like. The winter tires float on deep snow more than they dig in (blame their massive width) but you do feel very confident and well backed up.

Mind you, much of the RS5's capabilities are wasted in a snowstorm. So, thankfully, the cabin's leather-lined, aluminum-trimmed, high-tech atmosphere proved a relaxing, laid-back place to wait for Judgment Day. The sun came back up on December 22, meaning shoppers will still find the RS5 available for all-climate hardcore motoring thrills at dealers from \$77,000.

RS5 Quick summary

Engine. 4.2 litre V8, DOHC, FSI, 450 horsepower

Drivetrain. Quattro AWD

Observed Average Mileage. 15L / 100km

Transmission. 7-speed dual-clutch with launch control

Features. Speed-deployable spoiler, ceramic brakes, Bang and Olufsen Stereo, Bluetooth, navigation, head-lamp washers

Price As Tested. \$77,000-\$93,000



The durable and high performance Audi RS5 tackles the wind and snow. HANDOUT

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Boredom fighter

How to enjoy the RS5 when stuck behind a snow plow.

- **Learn a new language.** Set the infotainment system to Spanish, German or Japanese in the settings menu. Then, try your hand at navigating through the various controls for the stereo, Bluetooth or navigation system.
- **Make people point at the spoiler.** Repeatedly click the 'deploy rear spoiler' button, and you can make it wave at the passengers in the car behind you.
- **Rediscover your favorite music.** RS5's Bang and Olufsen stereo system is vibrant, clear and extremely crisp. You'll hear details in music you've never heard before—especially if playing back from a CD or DVD.
- **Play music with the paddle shifters.** The RS5's paddle-shift gearbox shifts in a blink—making the exhaust note change pitch faster than Niki Minaj's auto-tune machine. Click away at

the shift paddles and start experimenting.

Fight the fraudsters when buying a used car

Safe purchase tips.

Following these eight pieces of advice will help you beat the curbsiders

As with any major purchase, you need to do your due diligence when buying a used car. Here are eight important tips to avoid scams and to make sure the vehicle is right for you:

1. Ask yourself is this too good to be true?

Always question a deal that seems too good to be true.

2. Beware of certain sellers

Be wary of dealing with a private seller who has numerous cars listed at the same time.

They could be a curbsider—an unlicensed individual, dealer or retailer who buys up vehicles and instead of registering them under their own name, posts the same vehicles for sale with a markup. The curbsider might hide major issues or turn back the odometer in order to make a quick, profitable sale.

3. Meeting face-to-face is a must

Don't do business with a seller who won't meet face-to-face. Be on your guard if they'll only talk with you by phone or email.

4. Ensure appropriate paperwork is present and correct

Purchase a CarProof vehicle history report for a detailed Canadian and U.S. history of the vehicle along with regis-

tration details and lien information. The CarProof report will also contain branding and odometer details and tell you if the vehicle is actively reported as stolen.

5. Double check your details

Ask the seller for proof of identity and check that the seller's name and address matches up with the information on the actual vehicle registration form. Verify the vehicle identification number (VIN), the car's details and the colour of the car with the registration form, insurance slips and with the CarProof report. One way curbsiders commit used vehicle fraud is by falsifying these details.

6. Do a pre-purchase inspection at a location of your choosing.

Take the vehicle for a pre-purchase inspection to a place of your choosing. If the seller insists on using one specific facility, this could be a red flag. Many curbsiders team up with someone who will look the other way when doing inspections or misrepresent the vehicle's current condition.

7. No cash before seeing the car

Don't pay before you get the vehicle and be wary if the seller demands cash only. If the seller requests a third-party escrow service, investigate the service to make sure it's legitimate and secure, as many online escrow sites are fraudulent.

8. Fools rush in, so don't be one.

Don't let yourself be rushed into a decision to buy the vehicle. Take your time to ask questions and make an informed decision. **NEWS CANADA**



Have a check list before you hand over cash and take those keys. HANDOUT

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You won't lack for chances to move up in the world, but you have got to be quick. If you keep your eyes and ears open over the next two or three days, you will take great strides towards your ultimate goal.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Your philosophy of life will change before the end of the week, giving you a better grasp of what is truly important. Remember: No one changes before they are ready to do so — and you are ready now.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Even if you have done something you should not have done, there is no point feeling guilty about it because you cannot turn back the clock. You should be looking forward to the future. It holds so much promise.

Cancer

June 22 - July 21

The planets will help you to sweep away the past and create some kind of new beginning between now and the end of the week. If that means getting rid of people who hold you back, so much the better.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Do you change something a bit at a time, or do you throw yourself at it and finish it in one mad dash? That is the question you need to answer today. Make sure you get it right. There is a lot at stake.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Stick to your strengths today and over the next 72 hours. Yes, of course, you should be ambitious but that does not mean you have to start something new. Maybe you should just do what you do already.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Someone you love and respect will fly off the handle for no good reason today. If you are smart, you will pretend you have not noticed. It's only a minor incident, so why risk making a big issue of it?

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Make the most of the Sun's last few days in Capricorn to travel. It does not matter if your journey is short or long, it matters only that you are on the move. What you discover will brighten up your life.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Cash flow problems may be ongoing but between now and the Sun's change of signs at the weekend you will understand what needs to be done to improve things. Next time though, make sure you do it a bit sooner.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

More than anything else, you need to be ruthless with yourself and get rid of all those things that you no longer need. According to the planets, that's rather a lot. You could make a small fortune on eBay.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

If you are hurting in any way then you must open up and let loved ones know about it. Because you always put on a brave face, they may be completely unaware that you need a shoulder to cry on.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Sometimes you can be too cautious but today you'll be inspired to get up, get out and get busy on the kind of project that can change the world. Do you think that's too ambitious? If anything it's not ambitious enough.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

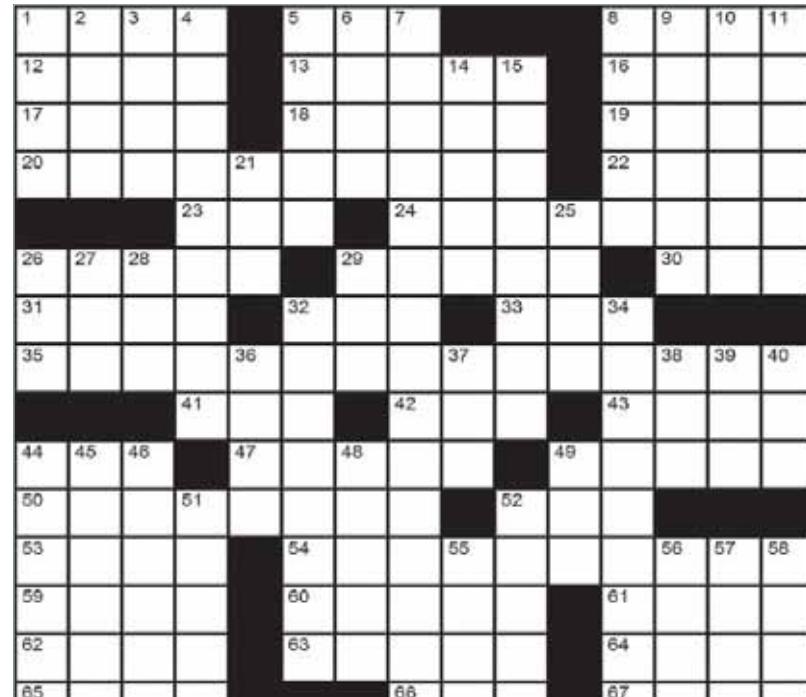
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

Across

1. Comet's follower
5. Joke
8. Poetic contraction
12. "_____, Brute?" - Caesar in Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Act III, Scene 1
13. WWII threat
16. "Able was ____..." (Palindrome start)
17. Printer's colour
18. Trim
19. Li'l house spot
20. MC Hammer style: 2 wds.
22. Coup d'____
23. Napoleonic Wars marshal
24. Oust
26. Dance/fitness program
29. "Beau ____" (1939)
30. Never: German
31. Without ____ (Penniless)
32. Li'l office
33. City, informally
35. Currer Bell was her pen name: 2 wds.
41. Mr. Butler, for short
42. Shed tool
43. ____ in Canada
44. Some ER cases alas
47. Yellow Fever mosquitoes
49. James Cameron's "The ____"
50. 16th Prime Minister: 2 wds.
52. Evita's li'l land
53. 'Cred' suffix
54. Prehistoric link to the New World, Bering ____: 2 wds.
59. Belgian songwriter Jacques
60. How fresh fish gets packed: 2 wds.
61. Study
62. Departed
63. "Modern Family" star Ms. Vergara
64. ____ hand
65. Legend Ms. Gardner's
66. Office tel. line
67. Video game maker

Down

1. ____savy
2. "Right back ____!"
3. ____TASS (Russian news agency)

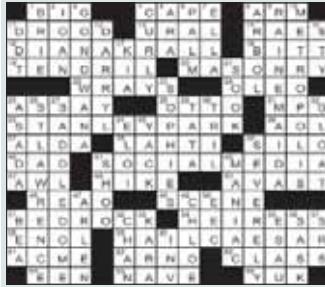


4. Old Town ___, NS (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
5. Aquarium fish
6. Spell-starter
7. Have "work" done: 4 wds.
8. Rome's river
9. Galen of President's Choice commercials
10. Menswear designer
11. Glam furniture piece
14. Poker stakes
15. Scientist's glass: 2 wds.
21. Culpa's partner
25. Munich mister

26. Mr. Efron
27. Work the aisles, in slang
28. New Zealand bird
29. ____ instinct
32. Aurora ____
34. Global series set in a munitions factory: 2 wds.
36. Actress Sharon
37. Greek dawn goddess
38. Fancy 'not'
39. QB's feats
40. poet mr. cummings, and others
44. Ontario's Port Burwell, the new

- permanent home of Cold War-era sub HMCS ____
45. Ex-Degrassi actress Nina who stars on "The Vampire Diaries"
46. Ms. Gomez
48. Liquid-Plumr competitor
49. Coming-in-plane, e.g.
51. Boston's NBA team, for short
52. Skip ____
55. Gladiator's 609 ____-ite
56. "Groove Is in the Heart" by ____
57. Turf ruler
58. Scandinavian story

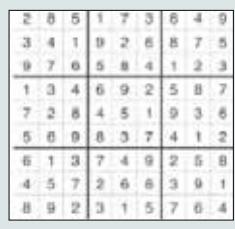
Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Weather

TODAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



MAX: 2°
MIN: 0°



MAX: 5°
MIN: 0°



MAX: 2°
MIN: -17°



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